

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MANILA 13597 301000Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-13 /048 W

-----110685 301305Z /53

R 300803Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4415

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 13597

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: GOP RELEASES 500 MORE DETAINEES

1. DAILY EXPRESS OF AUGUST 28 PUBLISHED UPI STORY THAT 500 DETAINEES WERE RELEASED FROM DETENTION CAMPS "THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY" ON AUGUST 27 "BRINGING TO 1,500 THE NUMBER OF DETAINEES FREED IN TWO MONTHS." EIGHTY-NINE OF THE 500 HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF "SECURITY OFFENSES". STORY CONTINUES THAT AFP JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL PRESIDED OVER RELEASE CEREMONY OF 202 DETAINEES, INCLUDING ELEVEN SECURITY CASES, AT BICUTAN NEAR MANILA. ACCOMPANYING PHOTO SHOWS PC DEPUTY COMMANDER ADMINISTERING OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO 108 AT BICUTAN. DIMAYA TOLD UPI THE RELEASE WAS "PART OF A PLAN TO PHASE OUT MILITARY COURTS TRYING CIVILIANS."

2. COMMENT: PRESIDENT MARCOS ANNOUNCED AUGUST 26 THAT "TODAY WE ARE BEGINNING TO RELEASE DETAINEES" UNDER THE AMNESTY PROGRAM HE ANNOUNCED TO WORLD LAW CONFERENCE (MANILA 13419 AND 13228). VALENCIA IN DAILY EXPRESS AUGUST 29 COMMENTED: "THIS NEGATES THE PESSIMISM EXPRESSED THE OTHER DAY BY THE NEW YORK TIMES. THE TIME SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT HE WAS RELEASING PRISONERS WAS NOTHING BUT WORDS." HOWEVER, THESE RELEASES APPEAR TO BE PART OF CONTINUING RELEASE PROGRAM RESULTING FROM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REVIEW OF CASES FOR TRANSFER FROM MILITARY TRIBUNALS TO CIVIL COURTS.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DETENTION, PRISONERS RELEASE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PINS, RP  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009